

BEFORE THE
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

SHAYLJA SUPREYA SINGH
17847 Redwood Rd
CASTRO VALLEY, CA 94546-1437

Associate Marriage and Family Therapist
Registration No. AMFT 101876

Respondent.

Case No. 2002023000826

**STIPULATED SURRENDER OF
REGISTRATION AND ORDER**

DECISION AND ORDER

Based on Condition 18 of the attached Decision and Order in the Matter of the Accusation against Shaylja Supreya Singh, Case No. 2002021000527, the Board formally accepts Respondent's request to surrender her Associate Marriage and Family Therapist Registration No. AMFT 101876 and accepts her tendered registration.

1. The surrender of Respondent's Associate Marriage and Family Therapist Registration No. AMFT 101876 and the acceptance of the surrendered registration by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board of Behavioral Sciences.

2. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as an Associate Marriage and Family Therapist in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.

3. Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board her current registration and renewal certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.

4. Respondent shall not apply to the Board for registration or licensure for three (3) years from the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.

5. If Respondent applies for any registration or license issued by the Board or any other healthcare licensing agency in the State of California, all of the charges alleged in Accusation Case No. 2002021000527 (OAH No. 2021030474) shall be deemed true, correct and admitted by Respondent for the purpose of any Statement of Issues or other proceeding seeking to deny such application.

6. The Board's adoption of her registration surrender precludes Respondent from petitioning the Board for reinstatement of the surrendered registration.

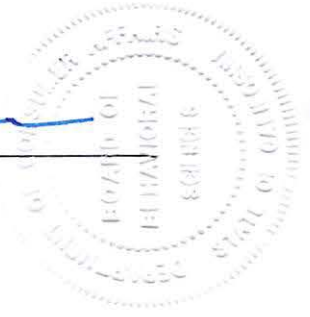
7. Should Respondent at any time after this surrender reapply to the Board for registration or licensure, she must meet all current requirements including, but not limited to, filing a current application, meeting all current educational and experience requirements, and taking and passing any and all examinations required of new applicants.

This Decision shall become effective on January 5, 2023.

It is so ORDERED December 6, 2022.



Steve Sodergren
Executive Officer
Board of Behavioral Sciences
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California



**BEFORE THE
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

SHAYLJA SUPREYA SINGH,

Associate Marriage and Family Therapist Registration No.

AMFT 101876

Respondent.

Agency Case No. 200-2021-000527

OAH No. 2021030474

DECISION AFTER REJECTION

Administrative Law Judge Traci C. Belmore, State of California, Office of Administrative Hearings, heard this matter on November 15, 2021, remotely.

Deputy Attorney General Aspasia A. Papavassiliou represented complainant Steve Sodergren, Executive Officer of the Board of Behavioral Sciences, Department of Consumer Affairs.

Attorney Christopher Zopatti represented respondent Shaylja Supreya Singh, who was present at hearing.

The record closed and the matter was submitted for decision on November 15, 2021.

The Board considered the Proposed Decision of the Administrative Law Judge, and after due consideration thereof, the Board declined to adopt said Proposed Decision, and thereafter on January 25, 2022, issued an Order of Rejection of Proposed Decision.

Subsequently, on April 27, 2022, the Board issued an Order Fixing Date for Submission of Written Argument. On July 19, 2022, the Board issued an Order Extending Date to Issue Decision in this matter by 30 days, until September 3, 2022, due to special circumstances.

The date for submission of written argument having expired, and the entire record, including the transcript of said hearing, having been read and considered, the Board, pursuant to Section 11517 of the Government Code, hereby issues the following order.

FACTUAL FINDINGS

1. On September 13, 2017, the Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, issued Associate Marriage and Family Therapist Registration No. AMFT 101876 to respondent Shaylja Supreya Singh. The registration was in full force and effect at all times relevant to this matter and will expire on September 30, 2022.

2. On January 26, 2021, complainant Steve Sodergren filed an accusation in his official capacity as Executive Officer of the Board. The accusation seeks to impose discipline upon respondent's registration for unprofessional conduct for a conviction that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a licensee and for the dangerous use of alcoholic beverages. Respondent filed a timely notice of defense and this hearing ensued.

Conviction

3. On July 20, 2020, in the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, respondent pled nolo contendere to a violation of Vehicle Code section 23152 subdivision (b) (driving under the influence or DUI), a misdemeanor. Respondent also admitted that her blood alcohol content (BAC) was greater than 0.15 percent. Imposition of sentence was suspended, and respondent was placed on probation for a period of three years with terms and conditions that included serving four days in county jail and completion of a three-month DUI education program.

4. The facts and circumstances underlying this offense are that on December 12, 2019, respondent was driving the wrong way on a one-way street. While conducting a traffic enforcement stop, San Mateo police officers observed that respondent's eyes were bloodshot and watery, she was emitting an odor of alcoholic beverages, and that her speech was slurred. Respondent failed to adequately perform field sobriety tests, including a preliminary alcohol screening that indicated her BAC was 0.200/0.216 percent, and she was arrested. A subsequent chemical breath test showed her BAC to be 0.19 percent.

Respondent's Evidence

5. There is no history of prior discipline on respondent's registration.

6. Respondent stated she had three to four drinks with her cousin. She did not feel inebriated. Respondent drinks one or two times a month which mainly consists of wine on the weekends. She is currently in therapy. Respondent is still drinking socially although she does not drive when she has had anything to drink. Respondent attended Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meetings between April and August 2020. While respondent acknowledged that she made a mistake driving while

impaired, she contends that her registration should not be disciplined.

7. Respondent hired Martin H. Williams, Ph.D., a psychologist and forensic mental health expert, to evaluate whether or not respondent suffered from a condition that would interfere with her ability to safely and effectively provide care to the public as a therapist. Dr. Williams evaluated respondent on April 8, 2021. Dr. Williams wrote a report dated April 13, 2021, in which he opined that respondent did not suffer from any mental health diagnosis nor did she suffer from alcohol use disorder.

8. Respondent has always wanted to help people and has acted as a mediator within her family. She stated that therapy is her calling and she plans to take the examination to become a licensed marriage and family therapist in February 2022. She has already completed the necessary clinical hours.

9. Respondent provided several character reference letters. Jim Shimon Kanhai, a family friend, wrote that respondent is of "exceptional" moral character, trustworthy, hardworking, and honest. Rahil Alimohammad, a friend, wrote that respondent is selfless, passionate, and empathetic. Dharik H. Nagin, a friend, wrote that respondent cares about her clients, has a strong work ethic, and works diligently to improve herself. Naveen Singh, a family friend, wrote that respondent has shown remorse for her DUI conviction and a willingness to change her attitude.

Costs

10. In connection with the enforcement of this accusation, complainant requests an award of costs in the amount of \$4,935. The request is supported by a declaration that complies with the requirements of California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 1042. These costs are reasonable.

LEGAL CONCLUSIONS

1. The burden of proof is on complainant to show cause for discipline by clear and convincing evidence. (*Ettinger v. Board of Medical Quality Assurance* (1982) 135 Cal.App.3d 853; Evid. Code, § 500.) The burden is on respondent to show rehabilitation by a preponderance of the evidence. (Evid. Code, §§ 115, 500.)

2. Business and Professions Code section 4982¹, authorizes the Board to impose discipline upon a license or registration for unprofessional conduct. Subdivision (a) defines unprofessional conduct as including conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a licensee or registrant. Business and Professions Code section 490 authorizes the Board to impose discipline upon a license if the licensee has been convicted of a crime that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued.

California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1812, states a crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a registrant if it evidences present or potential unfitness to perform the functions authorized by his or her license in a manner consistent with the public health. Based on the matters set forth in Factual Finding 4, respondent's DUI conviction is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a registrant. Based on the matters set forth in Factual Finding 3, cause exists to impose discipline upon respondent's AMFT registration.

¹ The accusation listed section 4992.3. At hearing, complainant moved to amend the accusation to state section 4982. That motion was granted.

3. Business and Professions Code section 4982 subdivision (c), authorizes the Board to impose discipline upon a licensee or registrant who administers to herself or uses an alcoholic beverage to the extent, or in a manner, that is dangerous or injurious to the registrant or to the public. Based on the matters set forth in Factual Finding 4, cause exists to impose discipline upon respondent's registration.

4. Having established cause for discipline, the remaining issue is the appropriate level of discipline to impose. The purpose of administrative proceedings regarding professional licenses is not to punish the applicant or licensee, but to protect the public. (*Hughes v. Board of Architectural Examiners* (1998) 17 Cal.4th 763, 785-786.)

5. The Board has adopted Uniform Standards Related to Substance Abuse and Disciplinary Guidelines (Guidelines), which must be considered in determining the appropriate level of discipline. According to the Guidelines the maximum recommended discipline for these violations is revocation. The minimum recommended discipline is probation for a period of five years with a 60-day suspension, with substance abuse conditions.

6. Respondent has made steps toward addressing this incident and has no prior history of discipline with the Board. Respondent attended AA meetings, has been in counseling, and reports that she is no longer driving when she consumes alcohol. However, her BAC was over two times the legal limit and she has not stopped consuming alcohol. Respondent maintains that she made a mistake but not one that should result in discipline upon her registration, which indicates a lack of insight into her wrongdoing. Fully acknowledging the wrongfulness of one's actions is an essential step toward rehabilitation. (*Seide v. Committee of Bar Examiners* (1989) 49 Cal.3d 933, 940.)

Respondent contends that she has learned from her mistake such that no discipline is necessary. Respondent provided rehabilitation evidence that alleviate the need to impose a suspension. However, respondent's very high BAC and the fact that she is still drinking necessitates monitoring.

Upon consideration of the entirety of the record, it is determined that protection of the public would be served by allowing respondent to retain her license on a probationary basis over a five-year term with conditions including substance abuse conditions.

Costs

7. Business and Professions Code section 125.3 authorizes the Board to recover reasonable costs of its investigation and enforcement in disciplinary proceedings. Complainant has reasonably incurred \$4,935 in costs in this action. (Factual Finding 10.)

8. In *Zuckerman v. State Board of Chiropractic Examiners* (2002) 29 Cal.4th 32, 45, the California Supreme Court established standards for determining whether costs should be assessed in the particular circumstances of each case, to ensure that licensees are not deterred from exercising their right to an administrative hearing. Among those standards are whether or not the licensee was successful at hearing in getting the charges reduced or outright dismissed; the licensee's good faith belief in the merits of his or her position; whether the licensee has raised a colorable challenge to the proposed discipline; the financial ability of the licensee to pay, and whether the scope of the investigation was appropriate to the alleged misconduct. Respondent provided rehabilitation evidence that formed a basis for determining that a suspension is unnecessary. In consideration of this factor, it is determined that it is appropriate to reduce the Board's cost recovery to \$4,000.

ORDER

Associate Marriage and Family Therapist Registration No. AMFT 101876, issued to respondent Shaylja Supreya Singh, is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed, and respondent is placed on probation for a period of five years with the following conditions. Probation shall continue on the same terms and conditions if Respondent is granted a subsequent registration, becomes licensed, or is granted another registration or license regulated by the Board during the probationary period.

Each condition of probation contained herein is a separate and distinct condition. If any condition of this Order, or any application thereof, is declared unenforceable in whole, in part, or to any extent, the remainder of this Order, and all other applications thereof, shall not be affected. Each condition of this Order shall separately be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

For the purposes of this Order, and consistent with Business and Professions Code section 23.7, all references to the word "license" contained in any term or condition below shall also be interpreted as meaning "registration".

1. Psychological/Psychiatric Evaluation

Within 90 days of the effective date of this Decision, and on a periodic basis thereafter as may be required by the Board or its designee, respondent shall complete a psychological or psychiatric evaluation by such licensed psychologists or psychiatrists as are appointed by the Board. The cost of such evaluation shall be borne by respondent. Failure to pay for the report in a timely fashion constitutes a violation of probation.

Such evaluator shall furnish a written report to the Board or its designee

regarding respondent's judgment and ability to function independently and safely as a counselor and such other information as the Board may require. Respondent shall execute a release of information authorizing the evaluator to release all information to the Board. Respondent shall comply with the recommendations of the evaluator.

If the evaluation indicates a need for supervised practice, within 30 days of notification by the Board, respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee, for its prior approval, the name and qualification of one or more proposed supervisors and a plan by each supervisor by which respondent's practice will be supervised.

If respondent is determined to be unable to practice independently and safely, upon notification, respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board or its designee. Respondent shall not engage in any practice for which a license issued by the Board is required, until the Board or its designee has notified respondent of its determination that respondent may resume practice.

2. Psychotherapy

Respondent shall participate in ongoing psychotherapy with a California licensed mental health professional who has been approved by the Board. Within 15 days of the effective date of this Decision, respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for its prior approval the name and qualifications of one or more therapists of respondent's choice. Such therapist shall possess a valid California license to practice and shall have had no prior business, professional, or personal relationship with respondent, and shall not be respondent's supervisor. Counseling shall be at least once a week unless otherwise determined by the Board. Respondent shall continue in such therapy at the Board's discretion. Cost of such therapy is to be borne by respondent.

Respondent may, after receiving the Board's written permission, receive therapy via videoconferencing if respondent's good faith attempts to secure face-to-face counseling are unsuccessful due to the unavailability of qualified mental health care professionals in the area. The Board may require that respondent provide written documentation of her good faith attempts to secure counseling via videoconferencing. Respondent shall provide the therapist with a copy of the Board's Decision no later than the first counseling session. Upon approval by the Board, respondent shall undergo and continue treatment until the Board or its designee determines that no further psychotherapy is necessary.

Respondent shall take all necessary steps to ensure that the treating psychotherapist submits quarterly written reports to the Board concerning respondent's fitness to practice, progress in treatment, and to provide such other information as may be required by the Board. Respondent shall execute a Release of Information authorizing the therapist to divulge information to the Board.

If the treating psychotherapist finds that respondent cannot practice safely or independently, the psychotherapist shall notify the Board within three (3) working days. Upon notification by the Board, respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board or its designee that respondent may do so. Respondent shall not thereafter engage in any practice for which a license issued by the Board is required until the Board or its designee has notified respondent that she may resume practice. Respondent shall document compliance with this condition in the manner required by the Board.

3. Education

Respondent shall take and successfully complete the equivalency of 2 semester units in substance use/abuse. All course work shall be taken at the graduate level at an accredited or approved educational institution that offers a qualifying degree for licensure as a marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, educational psychologist, or professional clinical counselor or through a course approved by the Board. Classroom attendance must be specifically required. Course content shall be pertinent to the violation and all course work must be completed within eighteen (18) months (or as approved by the Board) from the effective date of this Decision.

Within 90 days of the effective date of the Decision respondent shall submit a plan for prior Board approval for meeting these educational requirements. All costs of the course work shall be paid by the respondent. Units obtained for an approved course shall not be used for continuing education units required for renewal of licensure.

4. Dependency Support Program

Respondent shall attend a dependency program support program approved by the Board no less than three (3) times per week. Respondent shall provide proof of attendance at said program with each quarterly report that Respondent submits during the period of probation. Failure to attend or to show proof of such attendance shall constitute a violation of probation.

5. Abstain from Controlled Substances / Submit to Drug and Alcohol Testing

Respondent shall completely abstain from the use or possession of controlled or illegal substances unless lawfully prescribed by a medical practitioner for a bona fide illness.

Respondent shall immediately submit to random and directed drug and alcohol testing, at respondent's cost, upon request by the Board or its designee. Respondent shall be subject to a minimum number of random tests per year for the duration of the probationary term, as prescribed in the Uniform Standards Related to Substance Abuse listed herein. There will be no confidentiality in test results. Any confirmed positive finding will be immediately reported to respondent, respondent's current employer, and the supervisor, if any, and shall be a violation of probation.

If respondent tests positive for a controlled substance, respondent's license shall be automatically suspended. Respondent shall make daily contact as directed by the Board to determine if she must submit to testing. Respondent shall submit her test on the same day that she is notified that a test is required. All alternative testing sites due to vacation or travel outside of California must be approved by the Board prior to the vacation or travel.

6. Abstain from Use of Alcohol / Submit to Drug and Alcohol Testing

Respondent shall completely abstain from the intake of alcohol during the period of probation.

Respondent shall immediately submit to random and directed drug and alcohol testing, at respondent's cost, upon request by the Board or its designee. Respondent shall be subject to a minimum number of random tests per year for the duration of the probationary term, as prescribed in the Uniform Standards Related to Substance Abuse listed herein. There will be no confidentiality in test results. Any confirmed positive finding will be immediately reported to respondent, respondent's current employer, and to the supervisor, if any, and shall be a violation of probation.

If respondent tests positive for alcohol and/or a controlled substance,

respondent's license shall be automatically suspended. Respondent shall make daily contact as directed by the Board to determine if she must submit to testing.

Respondent shall submit her test on the same day that she is notified that a test is required. All alternative testing sites due to vacation or travel outside of California must be approved by the Board prior to the vacation or travel.

7. Obey all Laws

Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, all statutes and regulations governing the licensee, and remain in full compliance with any court ordered criminal probation, payments and other orders. A full and detailed account of any and all violations of law shall be reported by respondent to the board in writing within 72 hours of occurrence. To permit monitoring of compliance with this condition, respondent shall submit completed fingerprints through the Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation within 30 days of the effective date of the Decision, unless previously submitted as part of the licensure application process. Respondent shall pay the cost associated with the fingerprint process.

8. File Quarterly Reports

Respondent shall submit quarterly reports, to the Board or its designee, as scheduled on the Quarterly Report Form (rev. 07/16). Respondent shall state under penalty of perjury whether she has been in compliance with all the conditions of probation. Notwithstanding any provision for tolling of requirements of probation, during the cessation of practice respondent shall continue to submit quarterly reports under penalty of perjury.

9. Comply with Probation Program

Respondent shall comply with the probation program established by the Board and cooperate with representatives of the Board in its monitoring and investigation of respondent's compliance with the program.

10. Interviews with the Board

Respondent shall appear in person for interviews with the Board or its designee upon request at various intervals and with reasonable notice.

11. Failure to Practice

In the event respondent stops practicing in California, respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing within 30 calendar days prior to the dates of non-practice and return to practice. Non-practice is defined as any period of time exceeding 30 calendar days in which respondent is not engaging in any activities defined in sections 4980.02, 4989.14, 4996.9, or 4999.20 of the Business and Professions Code. Any period of non-practice, as defined in this condition, will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term and will relieve respondent of the responsibility to comply with the probationary terms and conditions with the exception of this condition and the following terms and conditions of probation: Obey all Laws; File Quarterly Reports; Comply with Probation Program; Maintain Valid License/Registration; and Cost Recovery. Respondent's license shall be subject to cancellation if respondent's period of non-practice total two years.

12. Change of Place of Employment or Residence

Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing within 30 days of any change of place of employment or residence. The written notice shall include the address, the telephone number, and the date of the change.

13. Supervision of Unlicensed Persons

While on probation, respondent shall not act as a supervisor for any hours of supervised practice required for any license issued by the Board. Respondent shall terminate any such supervisory relationship in existence on the effective date of this Decision.

14. Notification to Clients

Respondent shall notify all clients when any term or condition of probation will affect their therapy or the confidentiality of their records, including but not limited to supervised practice, suspension, or client population restriction. Such notification shall be signed by each client prior to continuing or commencing therapy. Respondent shall submit, upon request by the Board or its designee, satisfactory evidence of compliance with this term of probation.

15. Notification to Employer

Respondent shall provide each of her current or future employers, when performing services that fall within the scope of practice of her license, a copy of this Decision and the Accusation before commencing employment. Notification to the respondent's current employer shall occur no later than the effective date of the Decision or immediately upon commencing employment. Respondent shall submit, upon request by the Board or its designee, satisfactory evidence of compliance with

this term of probation.

Respondent shall provide to the Board the names, physical addresses, and telephone numbers of all employers, supervisors, and contractors. .

Respondent shall complete the required consent forms and sign an agreement with the employer and supervisor, or contractor, and the Board to allow the Board to communicate with the employer and supervisor or contractor regarding the licensee or registrant's work status, performance, and monitoring.

16. Violation of Probation

If respondent violates the conditions of her probation, the Board, after giving respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may set aside the stay order and impose the discipline (revocation) of respondent 's registration provided in the Decision.

If during the period of probation, an accusation, petition to revoke probation, or statement of issues has been filed against respondent's registration or application for licensure, or the Attorney General's office has been requested to prepare such an accusation, petition to revoke probation, or statement of issues, the probation period set forth in this decision shall be automatically extended and shall not expire until the accusation, petition to revoke probation, or statement of issues has been acted upon by the Board. Upon successful completion of probation, respondent's registration shall be fully restored.

17. Maintain a Valid License

Respondent shall, at all times while on probation, maintain a current and active license with the Board, including any period during which suspension or probation is tolled. Should respondent's license, by operation of law or otherwise, expire, upon

renewal respondent's license shall be subject to any and all terms of this probation not previously satisfied.

18. License Surrender

Following the effective date of this Decision, if respondent ceases practicing due to retirement or health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, respondent may voluntarily request the surrender of her license to the Board. The Board reserves the right to evaluate respondent's request and to exercise its discretion whether to grant the request or to take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender, respondent shall within 30 calendar days deliver respondent's license and certificate and if applicable wall certificate to the Board or its designee and respondent shall no longer engage in any practice for which a license is required. Upon formal acceptance of the tendered license, respondent will no longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation.

Voluntary surrender of respondent's license shall be considered to be a disciplinary action and shall become a part of respondent's license history with the Board. Respondent may not petition the Board for reinstatement of the surrendered license. Should respondent at any time after voluntary surrender ever reapply to the Board for licensure respondent must meet all current requirements for licensure including, but not limited to, filing a current application, meeting all current educational and experience requirements, and taking and passing any and all examinations required of new applicants.

19. Instruction of Coursework Qualifying for Continuing Education

Respondent shall not be an instructor for any coursework for continuing education credit required by any license issued by the board.

20. Notification to Referral Services

Respondent shall immediately send a copy of this Decision to all referral services registered with the Board in which respondent is a participant. While on probation, respondent shall send a copy of this Decision to all referral services registered with the Board that respondent seeks to join.

21. Reimbursement of Probation Program

Respondent shall reimburse the Board for the costs it incurs in monitoring the probation to ensure compliance for the duration of the probation period. Reimbursement costs shall be \$1,200.00 per year.

22. Cost Recovery

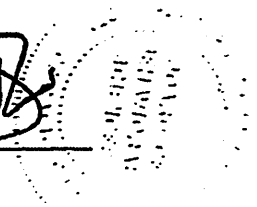

Respondent shall pay the Board \$4,000 for the reasonable costs of the investigation and prosecution of Case No. 200-2021-000527. Respondent shall make such payments in accordance with a payment plan outlined by the Board. Respondent shall make the check or money order payable to the Board of Behavioral Sciences and shall indicate on the check or money order that it is the cost recovery payment for Case No. 200-2021-000527. Any order for payment of cost recovery shall remain in effect whether or not probation is tolled. Probation shall not terminate until full payment has been made. Should any part of cost recovery not be paid in accordance with the outlined payment schedule, respondent shall be considered to be in violation of probation. A period of nonpractice by respondent shall not relieve respondent of

her obligation to reimburse the Board for its costs.

Cost recovery must be completed six months prior to the termination of probation. A payment plan authorized by the Board may be extended at the discretion of the Enforcement Manager based on good cause shown by the probationer.

IT IS SO ORDERED August 30, 2022.

The Decision shall become effective on September 29, 2022



MAX DISPOSTI, CHAIR
Board of Behavioral Sciences
Department of Consumer Affairs

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7 Aspasia.papavassiliou@doj.ca.gov
Attorneys for Complainant

8
9 **BEFORE THE**
10 **BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES**
11 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
12 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

13 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 200-2021-000527

14 **SHAYLJA SUPREYA SINGH**
17847 Redwood Road
15 Castro Valley, CA 94546-1437

A C C U S A T I O N

16 **Associate Marriage and Family Therapist**
Registration No. AMFT 101876

17 Respondent.
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20 **PARTIES**

21 1. Steve Sodergren (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity
22 as the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board), Department of
23 Consumer Affairs.

24 2. On or about September 13, 2017, the Board issued Associate Marriage and Family
25 Therapist Registration No. AMFT 101876 to Shaylja Supreya Singh (Respondent). The
26 Associate Clinical Social Worker Registration was in full force and effect at all times relevant to
27 the charges brought in this Accusation and will expire on September 30, 2021, unless renewed.
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1 plea of nolo contendere made to a charge substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or
2 duties of a licensee or registrant under this chapter is a conviction within the meaning of this
3 section. The board may order any license or registration suspended or revoked, or may decline to
4 issue a license or registration when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of
5 conviction has been affirmed on appeal, or, when an order granting probation is made
6 suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under Section 1203.4
7 of the Penal Code allowing the person to withdraw a plea of guilty and enter a plea of not guilty,
8 or setting aside the verdict of guilty, or dismissing the accusation, information, or indictment.

9 ...

10 “(c) Administering to himself any controlled substance or using any of the dangerous
11 drugs specified in Section 4022 or any alcoholic beverage to the extent, or in a manner, as to be
12 dangerous or injurious to the person applying for a registration or license or holding a
13 registration or license under this chapter, or to any other person, or to the public, or, to the extent
14 that the use impairs the ability of the person applying for or holding a registration or license to
15 conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by the registration or license. The board
16 shall deny an application for a registration or license or revoke the license or registration of any
17 person who uses or offers to use drugs in the course of performing clinical social work. This
18 provision does not apply to any person also licensed as a physician and surgeon under Chapter 5
19 (commencing with Section 2000) or the Osteopathic Act who lawfully prescribes drugs to a
20 patient under the person’s care.”

21 REGULATORY PROVISIONS

22 8. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1812 states:

23 “For purposes of denial, suspension, or revocation of a license or registration pursuant to
24 Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 475) of the Code, a crime or act shall be considered to be
25 substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a person holding a license under
26 Chapters 13, 13.5, 14, and 16 of Division 2 of the Code if to a substantial degree it evidences
27 present or potential unfitness of a person holding a license to perform the functions authorized by
28 his or her license in a manner consistent with the public health, safety or welfare.”

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1 to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct in that she was convicted of a crime
2 substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of an associate clinical social
3 worker. (Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 490, subd (a), 4992.3, subd. (a); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 16, § 1812.)
4 The circumstances are fully set forth in paragraphs 10 and 11, above.

5 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

6 **(Dangerous Use of Alcoholic Beverages)**

7 13. Respondent has subjected her Associate Marriage and Family Therapist
8 Registration to disciplinary action in that she used alcoholic beverages to the extent or in a
9 manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself or others. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4992.3, subd.
10 (c).) The circumstances are fully set forth in paragraphs 10 and 11, above.

11 **PRAYER**

12 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters alleged in this
13 Accusation and that, following the hearing, the Board of Behavioral Sciences issue a decision:

14 1. Revoking or suspending Associate Marriage and Family Therapist Registration No.
15 AMFT 101876, issued to Shaylja Supreya Singh;

16 2. Ordering Shaylja Supreya Singh to pay the Board of Behavioral Sciences the
17 reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and
18 Professions Code section 125.3; and,

19 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

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21 DATED: January 26, 2021

Steve Sodergren

22 STEVE SODERGREN
23 Interim Executive Officer
24 Board of Behavioral Sciences
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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